

YUGOSLAVIA: New Crackdown in Kosovo

Yugoslav leaders are increasing efforts to curb the monthlong ethnic Albanian demonstrations in Kosovo Province. In an emergency session Tuesday, the Federal Presidency approved redeploying Army units to back up security forces; it imposed a curfew in the province yesterday. Clashes with security forces have intensified in recent days; the death toll since December is some 30 to 35. Premier Markovic has been unable to force Serbian leader Milosevic, now calling for the mass expulsion of thousands of "illegal" ethnic Albanian immigrants and Serbian resettlement of Kosovo, into a dialogue with the Albanian opposition,

Stringent security measures probably will dampen unrest for the time being, but underlying Albanian grievances probably will require periodic military intervention. Milosevic almost certainly will avoid any dialogue that would legitimize Albanian demands for greater autonomy and weaken Serbian control of the province. His calls for mass expulsions and Serbian resettlement probably are just rhetoric and would meet stiff national opposition if he tried to implement them

